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	Oakland, CA 94612-0550	Board of Vocational Nursing
6	Telephone: (510) 622-2141 Facsimile: (510) 622-2270	and Psychiatric Technicians
7	Attorneys for Complainant	
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF VOCATIONAL NURSING AND PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIANS DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
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11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. VN- 2010-4297
12	AIDA SIGUENZA	
13	A.K.A. AIDA ISABEL SIGUENZA 464 Irvington Street	ACCUSATION
14.	Daly City, CA 94014	
15	Vocational Nurse License No. VN 250589	
16	Respondent.	
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18	Complainant alleges:	
19	<u>PARTIES</u>	
	1. Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in	
20	her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians, Department of Consumer Affairs.	
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22	2. On or about June 15, 2010, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric	
23	Technicians issued Vocational Nurse License Number VN 250589 to Aida Siguenza, also known	
24	as Aida Isabel Siguenza, (Respondent). The Vocational Nurse License was in full force and	
25	effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in this Accusation and will expire on August 31,	
26	2013, unless renewed.	
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### **JURISDICTION**

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs, under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code unless otherwise indicated.
- 4. Section 2875 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension, expiration, surrender or cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
- 6. Section 2892.1 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may renew an expired license at any time within four years after its expiration.

## STATUTORY/REGULATORY PROVISIONS

7. Section 2878 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"The Board may suspend or revoke a license issued under this chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act (Bus. & Prof. Code, 2840, et seq.)] for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(f) Conviction of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a licensed vocational nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence of the conviction."
  - 8. Section 2878.5 of the Code states, in pertinent part:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Vocational Nursing Practice Act] it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

- "(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public, or to the extent that the use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.
- "(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving possession of any narcotic or dangerous drug, or the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof."
- 9. Section 490 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that a Board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued.
  - 10. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 2521, states, in pertinent part:

"For the purposes of denial, suspension, or revocation of a license pursuant to Division 1.5 (commencing with Section 475) of the Business and Professions Code, a crime or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a licensed vocational nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences present or potential unfitness of a licensed vocational nurse to perform the functions authorized by his license in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare."

#### **COST RECOVERY**

11. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

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# FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Substantially Related Conviction) (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 490, 2878, subd. (f))

- Respondent has subjected her Vocational Nurse License to disciplinary action under 12. 3 Code sections 490 and 2878, subdivision (f), and California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 4 5 2521, in that she was convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a vocational nurse. Specifically, on or about September 23, 2011, in the Superior Court 6 of California, San Mateo County, Case No. NM403092, entitled *People of the State of California* 7 v. Aida Isabel Siguenza, Respondent was convicted by her plea of nolo contendere to violating 8 Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b) (driving with a blood alcohol content of .08% or 9 more), a misdemeanor. Respondent also admitted the prior conviction on July 18, 2006, of 10 11 violating Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b). The imposition of sentencing was 12 suspended, and Respondent was placed on court probation for 3 years upon terms and conditions, which included, but were not limited to, the following: serve 32 days in County Jail, with 13 recommendation to be accepted to the Sheriff's Alternative Sentencing Bureau; obey all laws; 14 pay fine of \$2,125; enroll in and complete the multiple offender program; and do not drive with 15 any alcohol in her system during probationary period; and do not drive without a valid license or 16 without insurance. The factual circumstances of the convictions are as follows: 17
  - a. On or about April 30, 2011, a Daly City Police Department (DCPD) pulled over Respondent, who was driving a black Honda Civic, which was straddling both lanes of traffic. Once contacted, the DCPD officer noticed that Respondent displayed the "classic systems" of being under the influence of alcohol. Although Respondent told the officer that she had had only one drink, the officer noted that Respondent's breath smelled like alcohol, she had bloodshot eyes, and her speech was slurred. Respondent admitted that she had been arrested for a prior DUI. Respondent performed poorly on the field sobriety tests she agreed to take. Respondent refused to take other field sobriety tests because as she said, she was too intoxicated. A preliminary alcohol screening (PAS) test showed that Respondent's blood alcohol content (BAC) was .23 percent. Based upon the officer's initial driving observations, Respondent's statements, and her

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misdemeanor. The imposition of sentence was suspended, and Respondent was placed on

probation for 3 years upon terms and conditions, which included, but were not limited to, the following: serve 96 hours in County Jail with recommendation to be accepted to the Sheriff's Alternative Sentencing Bureau; pay a fine of \$1,381; not to drive without valid driver license or insurance; enroll in and complete a 9 month First Offender program; not to drive with any alcohol in her blood during the probationary period. The factual circumstances of this conviction are as follows:

a. On or about February 16, 2006, in San Bruno, California, a California Highway
Patrol (CHP) officer was dispatched to the scene of a traffic collision. Once there, the CHP
officer contacted Respondent who had driven her vehicle into a tree. A responding San Bruno
Police Department (SBPD) corporal told the CHP officer that he had smelled alcohol on
Respondent's breath. He also told the CHP officer that Respondent's eyes had a glassy
appearance. Respondent was injured and she was treated by the San Bruno Fire Department and
a paramedic. Once Respondent was removed from her vehicle, the CHP officer noticed an almost
empty bottle of Hennessy cognac lying on the vehicle's front right passenger's floorboard.
Respondent admitted to the paramedic that she had drunk two to three glasses of wine and a glass
of Hennessy cognac. The paramedic smelled a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on
Respondent's breath. Due to Respondent's injuries, Respondent could not participate in a breath
test of her blood alcohol content, or any field sobriety tests. Respondent told the CHP officer, "I
know I shouldn't drive. I was intoxicated." Respondent was arrested for driving under the
influence of alcohol.

## **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians issue a decision:

1. Revoking or suspending Vocational Nurse License Number VN 250589, issued to Aida Siguenza;

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